

REMARKS

This amendment responds to the office action dated April 15, 2005. Claims 1-19 are pending in the application. Claims 11-19 were allowed and claims 2-7 and 10-12 were objected to, but would be allowed if amended to place them in independent form. Claims 1, 8 and 9 were rejected. Also, Claims 1-19 were rejected on formal grounds under Section 112 as being indefinite. Clarification was required. In this amendment, claims 1 and 8 were amended to place them in allowable form, and claim 9 is dependent on claim 8 and should now be in allowable dependent form. All of the claims have been amended to overcome the Section 112 objections. Reconsideration and favorable action are requested.

The examiner is thanked for his careful review of the claims under Section 112 and for the precise and clear objections. The applicant has carefully reviewed all of the objections and amended the claims accordingly. It is believed that the applicant has fully complied with the examiner's request to clarify the claims. The amendments overcoming the Section 112 objections are self-explanatory, and it is not necessary to comment on every change. However, one comment is needed. The office action objected to the phrase "unique combination" in line 12 and "unique group of ejectors" in line 14 of claim 13. No changes were made in response to this objection and it is respectfully requested that claim 13 be accepted without such changes. It is respectfully submitted that when you have a plurality of things, it is always possible to divide the plurality of things into unique groups or unique combinations. Thus, with any plurality of things, such unique groups or unique combinations are inherent in the plurality. It is unnecessary to provide an antecedent basis by saying something like "the plurality of things is organized into a plurality of unique groups." If the examiner believes that the claims should be amended to provide an antecedent bases for the "Unique" language he is respectfully requested to call the undersigned and this change can be accomplished over the phone.

Claims 1 and 8-9 were rejected under Section 102 (b) as being anticipated by U.S. Patent 6,431,685. Claims 1 and 8 have been amended to overcome this rejection. It is noted that claim 2 was allowed. After studying claim 2 and the cited reference, the applicant has amended claims 1 and 8 to distinguish from the cited reference in a manner

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similar to claim 2. It is believed that the language employed in claims 1 and 8 is slightly broader than the language used in claim 2 and therefore the claims have different scope. However, the essence of the distinction found in claim 2 making it allowable has been incorporated into claims 1 and 8.

Claim 1 has been amended to provide that the power circuit has a total resistance and the compensation circuit has a sub-total resistance that is included in the the total resistance. The names " total resistance" and " sub-total resistance" are not intended to impose any type of limitation on the resistances. They are intended to be fairly meaningless names, like a proper name of a person, so that the two resistances can be distinguished and related. In particular, it is important to understand that the " sub-total" resistance of the compensation circuit is included within of the " total" resistance of the power circuits.

Claim 1 is further amended to provide: " the compensation circuit having first and second parallel resistance paths and being responsive to the control signals to connect either the first resistance path or both the first and second resistance paths to carry power in the power circuits. " This feature is not found in the cited reference. There is no teaching of a compensation circuit that connects both first and second resistance paths to carry power. Claim 1 further provides that " the sub-total resistance of the compensation circuit is reduced when both the first and second resistance paths are connected to carry power. " Again, the cited reference does not teach that a sub-total resistance may be reduced by connecting first and second resistance paths (thereby reducing of the total resistance). For this reason, claim 1 defines over the cited reference in a manner similar to claim 2 and allowance is requested.

Claim 8 is amended to provide that the compensation circuit includes " at least first and second switches that are connected in parallel with each other", and it further provides: " each of the compensation circuits being responsive to the printhead command signals to actuate either the first switch or the first and second switches in the compensation circuit. " This language parallels the language of claims 1 and 2. The cited reference does not teach the concept of actuating both a first and second switch " to actuate the associated ink ejector" as required by claim a. For this reason, it is respectfully submitted that claim 8 is allowable and such action is requested.

The office action indicates that claims 2-7, which are dependent on claim 1, would be allowable if rewritten in independent form. Since claim 1 has been amended to place it in the allowable form, it is believed that claims 2-7 are also allowable without further amendments, and therefore allowance of Claims 2-7 is requested. Likewise, the office action indicated that claims 10-19 would be allowable if rewritten in independent form. Claims 10-19 are dependent on claim 8 and claim 8 has been amended to place it in allowable form. Therefore, it is submitted that claims 10-19 may be allowed without further amendments, and such action is requested.

The additional art cited by the examiner has been considered, but no further comments are deemed necessary. It is believed that the amended claims clearly define over these references.

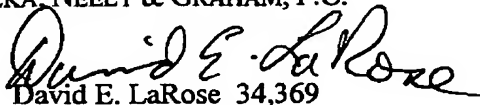
The applicant has made an earnest attempt to place this case in condition for allowance. In particular, the applicant has attempted to amend claims 1 and 8 to place them in allowable form based on the indication of allowance for claim 2. If the examiner believes that the amendments are not sufficient, he is respectfully requested to call the undersigned. It is believed that appropriate and mutually acceptable language could be found. Likewise, if the amendments do not overcome any of the Section 112 rejections, the examiner is respectfully requested to call and discuss language that would be mutually acceptable.

In the event this response is not timely filed, applicants hereby petition for the appropriate extension of time and request that the fee for the extension be charged to deposit account 12-2355. If other fees are required by this amendment, such as fees for additional claims, such fees may be charged to deposit account 12-2252. Should the examiner require further clarification of the invention, it is requested that s/he contact the undersigned before issuing the next office action.

Respectfully submitted,

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7/15/05
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